

Message Text

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51

ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 L-02 USIE-00 AID-05

SSO-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00

INT-05 STR-01 /049 W

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O 161930Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 679

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 2204

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, GY

SUBJECT: REYNOLDS GUYANA-PRESS COVERAGE

REF: STATE 272123

1. KIT NASCIMENTO, MINISTER OF STATE IN PM'S OFFICE, WHO IS MANAGING PUBLIC RELATIONS ASPECTS OF REYNOLDS NATIONALIZATION, PHONED ME AT NOON DEC 16 TO RAISE OBJECTION REGARDING ARTICLE IN DEC 12 WALL STREET JOURNAL, SPECIFICALLY TO PORTION WHICH READS, "THE COMPANY SAID IT IS BEING REPRESENTED IN THE TALKS BY OPIC, THE U.S. AGENCY THAT INSURES THE REYNOLDS INVESTMENT IN GUTANA". NASCIMENTO SAID HIS PROBLEM WITH THIS STATEMENT IS THAT IT IMPLIES OPIC IS "BACKING"REYNOLDS' POSITION. HE SAID GOG HAS RECEIVED QUERIES ON THIS STATEMENT, THRU GOTTLIEB ASSOCIATES IN U.S; FROM METALS TRADE JOURNALS, WASHINGTON POST AND NEW YORK TIMES.

2. I READ TO NASCIMENTO, AND SENT HIM TEXT, OF REYNOLDS' PRESS RELEASE FROM REFTEL (NASCIMENTO LATER TOLD ME THAT ACCORDING TO GOTTLIEB ORIGINAL STORY IN WALL ST. JOURNAL BASED ON ORAL STATEMENT BY REYNOLDS SPOKESMAN, WHICH WSJ INSISTS IT REPORTED VERBATIM. ONLY LATER, RESPONDING TO QUERIES FROM OTHER NEWSMEN, DID REYNOLDS ISSUE WRITTEN RELEASE IN REFTEL.) HE AGREED THAT THIS TEXT GIVES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOG NO RPT NO PROBLEM, THOUGH HE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED FACT OF

OPIC-GOG TALKS NOT BE PUBLICIZED, IN ACCORD WITH ORAL AGREEMENT AT OFFSET, WHICH GOG HAS OBSERVED SCRUPULOUSLY. HE ASKED THAT I INFORM DEPT AND OPIC OF HIS VIEWS AND EXPRESS HIS HOPE THAT EITHER REYNOLDS OR OPIC ATTEMPT TO CLARIFY RECORD. HE ADDED THAT HE FEELS OBLIGED TO ISSUE STATEMENT VIA GOTTLIEB TO EFFECT THAT TALKS HAVE TAKEN PLACE AND WILL CONTINUE AND THAT IN THEM GOG HAS INDICATED LIMITS TO WHICH IT CAN GO IN COMPENSATING REYNOLDS. I SUGGESTED DESIRABILITY OF AVOIDING SAYING ANYTHING WHICH WOULD IMPAIR FLEXIBILITY OF EITHER PARTY IN FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS, BUT I DOUBT THAT THIS HAD ANY EFFECT.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INDICATION REGARDING INQUIRIES TO DEPT FROM PRESS ON THIS POINT, AS WELL AS WHAT, IF ANYTHING, DEPT OR OPIC PROPOSES TO PUT OUT.

KREBS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONALIZATION, NEGOTIATIONS, PRESS RELEASES
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Markings:

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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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